

evidence of intent to sell. Provide, as the attorney-general has suggested, a remedy by injunction. Make the place where the drugs are sold or kept for sale in violation of law a nuisance and abate it as in the case of liquor nuisances.

THE SHORT BALLOT.

I discussed the short ballot question in my inaugural address two years ago and the Thirty-fifth General Assembly made some progress in that direction. The question is one of even greater interest than it was then. It will continue to thrust itself to the front until there is some change that will be an adoption of the short ballot principle which is: "When you want representation, elect. When you want administration, appoint." That is all there is to it and the application of the principle solves the problem. Under our present methods everybody knows there is no such thing, and cannot be, as an intelligent selection of at least half of our public officials. But I will not re-discuss the question. It ought to have your most earnest and careful attention. I might, however, suggest that certainly the office of railroad commissioner ought to be made appointive.

PUBLIC UTILITIES BILL.

Neither will I re-discuss the question of public utilities. I also discussed that question two years ago and I now re-iterate all I then said and also refer you to what I then said on the question of

COUNTY MANAGEMENT.

I thoroughly believe that you ought to so change the law as to permit the appointment or employment of a manager of the business affairs of the county—one who will give his whole time to the duties of his office. Many thousands of dollars could be saved. What is said here applies as well to towns and cities. By your permission I refer you to what I heretofore said on this subject.

CONCLUSION.

I have presented these different subjects for your consideration only in a suggestive way and left the consideration of them exhaustively to you, if, perchance, you may consider them of sufficient moment to engage your serious attention, as I hope you may. I am sure your final judgment and action will be right and with this confidence I submit them.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

OF

GEORGE W. CLARKE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF IOWA

DELIVERED JANUARY 14, 1915

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INAUGURAL ADDRESS
OF
GOVERNOR GEORGE W. CLARKE

Delivered to the Thirty-sixth Session of the General Assembly,
January 1915

Members of the Thirty-sixth General Assembly and Fellow Citizens:

While I am not insensible to the high honor conferred upon me by a re-election to the office of Governor of Iowa yet I do not come to this day and this gathering in this chamber of the representative men and women of the commonwealth, with any exaltation of spirit, but rather with a deep sense of obligation which the honor imposes upon me. I regard the ceremony of this hour to be not for the purpose of conferring distinction upon any one but an assembling of the people here through their chosen representatives to dedicate, consecrate to their service two years of the life of a fellow-citizen. A great state speaks here to-day in hope. I wish I could realize in service rendered the hope of an intelligent people devoted to human welfare. But ideals so far outrun realization that I know that it is impossible. While I am thus impressed with the occasion, the natural instincts of my mind and heart respond in sincere gratefulness to the people of Iowa, not simply because they have conferred upon me again the office,—there is something better in the abstract than that—but because I seem still to have in some measure their confidence.

Frequently upon occasions of this kind opportunity is taken to discuss matters relating to national politics. Doubtless this is because the office is sometimes regarded as having quite a large relation to that subject. I have never had exactly that conception of it. It rather appeals to me as having a very vital relation to the business of the state, to the development and up-building of it in all its great interests and to the common good of the people, not only as citizens of Iowa, but with reference to the contribution the state may make to the sum total of the Great Republic.

What may have appropriateness at this time it, is somewhat difficult to determine. The interest of the world is absorbed in the gigantic war going on in Europe. Our people are contributing to the relief of suffering occasioned by it. The people may take note of it, it seems to me, on an occasion like this and if I say something about it and the attitude of mind that it seems to me should prevail among our people with reference to it, I trust it may not be deemed amiss.

Two years ago when we assembled here upon a similar occasion the world was at peace. The great nations of the earth were engaged in the upbuilding of the world. Their commerce covered the seas and the ports of the world welcomed every flag. All around the earth men said mankind had reached the highest point in civilization of which history had made any record. Art, science, literature, had an appreciative world. Their devotees were in all lands. Culture and refinement—the humanities—were appealing to men as never before. Men were talking of universal peace. They were traveling to far away lands beyond oceans for peace conferences. A little later they were preparing for a great celebration among the nations of one hundred years of peace among English speaking peoples. The brotherhood of man seemed about to become a realistic conception and no longer a Utopian dream.

Suddenly, a few months ago, there were gathering armies in the great European nations where civilization after centuries had developed its finest flower and fruitage. Millions of men were marching down to the battle. The roar of the guns has not ceased since. Thousands upon thousands have fallen. The moans of the wounded fill the nights with horror. There is weeping in the homes of a continent and cries of fatherless children. Destruction of the work and toil of centuries with relentless hand goes on. The hidden mine explodes and millions of dollars and hundreds of men, helpless, disappear beneath the waves. Suffering indescribable follows in the wake of grim-visaged war. Insanity displaces sanity. Pestilence threatens and starvation follows in its train. The effects on the stricken countries will follow far, far down the years. Babies of today will bear its burdens on their backs through life. The world, shocked, horrified, seems losing its faith in humanity. Man, after all, at the center of him, it is said, is the same cruel brutish being as when he lived in the forest and wielded a bludgeon. Civilization is a farce and liable to fall

to pieces any day. The brotherhood of man is a weak, sickly sentimentalism. Men relapse into barbarism in a week. The foundations for nobility of life and great living crumble during a night. In vain has been the long struggle. In vain the wonderful mechanical inventions of the last century. In vain the discoveries of science. In vain everything except as engines of destruction. In vain Christianity. It is but a thin veneer—a pretense. In vain the Sermon on the Mount. In vain the perfect life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth. So cry millions of discouraged, despondent, surrendering men and women. Should we have such an attitude of mind? I do not believe in this cry. I deprecate this cry of failure. The day of surrender should never come. The face of every man and woman should ever be turned toward the future, aglow with hope and their minds and hearts animated with confidence in the ultimate triumph of the great ideals that have ever inspired the men and women whom all the world, good and bad alike, have pronounced blessed and the real Kings and Queens of humanity. I believe with Browning that "God is in his Heaven and all is right with the world." I believe that all things work together for good. Men and women ought to be standing out on the firing line of this faith. I don't believe in the trembling, shrinking, fearing, surrendering life. I believe in the great moral forces of this world. I believe that they are stronger than the unflinchable armies of the Kaiser and of all the artillery and siege guns of the British Empire and of the Czar of all Russia and of all navies that ever floated upon all the seas and of any and all fortifications ever built by men. I do not think this world is a failure. I think that the great, fine, beautiful, inspiring things, beyond description, beyond language, which have been implanted in my soul and yours will ultimately triumph far away yonder down the centuries, it may be. I believe with Tennyson when he said:

"I doubt not through the ages one increasing purpose runs
And the thoughts of men are widened with the process of
the suns."

I believe with the old Hebrew prophet of twenty-six centuries ago that the time will come when "men will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks and nations will not lift up sword against nation neither will they learn war any more." If this is not so "then is our preaching vain." If we do not camp a little higher up every day, every month, every year we are not fulfilling our destiny as individuals or as a people.

As a people we should never be "Tenting tonight on the old camp-ground," but as a progressive, inspired people moving on in the line of human betterment. I think we may say—

"And fierce though the friends may fight
And long though the angels hide
I know that Truth and Right
Have the universe on their side."

Justice, now so trampled upon and now so apparently unattainable, will ultimately prevail. Down in the rotunda of this great building we have inscribed in letters of gold the words, "Justice is the idea of God, the ideal of man." Some one has said Justice was ordained from the foundation of the world. Carlyle, one of the most profound thinkers of the last century wrote:

"Foolish men imagine that because judgment for an evil thing is delayed there is no justice, but an accidental one here below. Judgment for an evil thing is many times delayed some day or two, some century or two, but it is as sure as life, as sure as death. In the center of the world whirlwind, verily now as in the oldest days, dwells and speaks a God. The great soul of the world is just. There is justice here below and even at bottom there is nothing else but justice. Forget that, thou hast forgotten all. Success will never more attend thee. How can it? I tell thee again there is nothing else but justice. One strong thing I find here below; the just thing, the true thing. My friend if you had all the artillery of the world trundling at your back in support of an unjust thing, and infinite bonfires waiting ahead of thee to blaze centuries long for thy victory on behalf of it—I would advise thee to call a halt. What will thy success amount to? If the thing is unjust thou hast not succeeded. No, not though bonfires blazed from north to south and bells rang and editors wrote leading articles and the just thing lay trampled out of sight, to all mortal eyes an abolished and annihilated thing." It will rise again. It will prevail. You cannot fight justice out of this world. It is the idea of God. You cannot beat it down by laws or artillery.

So the most appalling, the most gigantic war of all history has its roots in the wrong thing, the unjust thing. Refer it, if you will, to this incident or that in the past history of nations, yet under it all and struggling for recognition, for supremacy, is the right thing, the just thing. Out of it all I believe may come

ultimate good for humanity. The progress of the world has ever been through suffering, tears, death. Truth may in some future years have an easier pathway but up to the present it "has always ridden on a gun carriage." When the thunder of the guns has ceased, the smoke rolled away and the monuments have been erected to the memory of the fallen, humanity has often moved up a milestone. Human liberty has fought every inch of its way. Never a concession without a fight. The greater the value to the people, the more determined and persistent the contest. The truth of this statement has been realized on the floor of this House scores of times. It is an appalling price to pay, but beyond this world war lies, in all probability, the death of militarism, lies the practical disarmament of the great powers of the earth, comes the removal from the people of the crushing burdens of great armies and navies, comes the disappearance of hereditary rulers and the entrance of more perfect democracies. The world will, it seems to me, demand these things upon the settlement of this awful upheaval of the nations. It will fail of its duty if it does not. All the world will be interested in the settlement. If all these things emerge, has not good come? Will not humanity take a long step forward? Will not the brotherhood of man advance much more nearly toward actual realization? Is there not now almost in sight, as a necessary result, a federation of the world? Are there men in Iowa, or will there be in the Iowa that is to be, men who will sit in a congress of all the earth? May we not be closer than we may possibly realize to a realization of Tennyson's vision?

"For I dipt into the future, far as human eye could see
Saw the vision of the world and all the wonder that would be.

"Till the war-drums throb'd no longer and the battle flags
were furled

In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world."

Why should any man despair? Why should any man cry out, civilization is a failure? It is but crushed Justice and eternal Right coming into their own.

I think we may approve the sentiment:

"Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath
are stored;

He has loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift
sword,

His truth is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;

He is sifting out the hearts of men before his judgment seat;
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him, be jubilant my feet
Our God is marching on."

Human progress has not stopped. There will be a restoration upon more secure foundations. Has not mankind moved steadily forward through all the ages? Can anybody think it is going to stop now?

Men of Iowa, living in the best day God ever vouchsafed to humanity, under the best and freest government that human wisdom ever devised, at the very top of human conditions, in a land where nature ever smiles and the soil is rich to prodigality, face to the front, fill your minds and hearts with a great faith in the eternal rightness of things, with an inspiring optimism and pull for the common good, for the betterment of human conditions until your State shall come to be the best place in all the earth in which to live. A man ought to set for himself a goal toward which, leaving the things which are behind, he can press forward. He ought to be inspired with a vision inviting to fine accomplishment. The man without a vision is a burden. He is a camp follower. You never can get him out on "the red, roaring firing line."

Iowa is to be greatly congratulated on the splendid public spirit that has sprung up all over the State in the last two years. It doesn't make any difference into what part of the State you go, it is there. There is public discussion of ways and means of growth. More production, better and cleaner farms, better herds, better roads, better streets, better parks, better schools and school-houses, better homes, better and cleaner towns and cities, better sanitary conditions. When before did such a spirit ever get into the very atmosphere of Iowa? To such an extent has this become an all-pervading spirit that the man who does not breathe it has become known throughout the State and gained a kind of distinction. This does not mean a spirit rampant for change for the sake of change. It does not mean a spirit that will out-run the safe, sane, reliable judgment of intelligent, careful men, but it means a spirit that understands the needs and knows how to build a great civilization. It does not mean that anybody thinks that this is but the work of a day, but it means that there is a clear vision of what ought to be and can be done under the conditions of Iowa life and a determination to work out and realize gradually that ideal so

far as possible. Did you ever know a time when public office was more regarded as an opportunity for public service than now? Have you not observed that there is far more talk about the common good than there was only a very few years ago? Have you noted how more and more men are giving of their time and money to the public welfare? And it has not all issued in talk. There has been great advancement. It is seen on the farms of the State—better homes and farm buildings—far better and more comfortable life there. Better schools. More school houses built last year than for very many years before. More children in the schools. A higher average paid for teachers than ever before. Forty-nine fine high school buildings have recently been erected ranging in cost from \$15,000 to \$190,000. Aside from these there have very recently been built twenty-two consolidated school buildings ranging in cost from \$9,000 to \$60,000. There are in the State eighty consolidated schools and the increase in the last two years was sixty-four. There was more paving done in the towns of Iowa, I am told, in the last year than in ten years before. Time would fail me if I were to attempt to speak fully of the wonderful progress made in the last two years, largely animated by this all-pervasive spirit that I have spoken of that is moving upon and inspiring the lives of the people for better things. May the great State move on.

There are some obstacles, of course. Indeed, it must be said there are many and the regrettable thing is that it is so often based on human selfishness. I mean that a man will sometimes place what he deems his own even slight pecuniary interest above what it is perfectly clear would be for the enhancement of the interest of all. There are men who would charge a battery for Iowa against a deadly fire with splendid bravery who would not have the firm courage and patriotism to consent, without the most determined fight, to the change of a law that would divert fifty or a hundred dollars from their pockets annually, although clearly for the common good and worth a hundred thousand dollars annually to the people. There is but one question, it is impossible that there could be any other, and that is, is this for the public welfare? If it is, every personal consideration should instantly disappear. I can have no interest, you can have no interest, that is detrimental to the interest of all. Will men let loose of their selfish interests? It is this very question over which battles have been fought and the intellectual contests in the legislative bodies of the

world have ever been, when reduced to their last analysis, in innumerable cases, waged about the very same question. As legislators the question is, is the principle involved sound and then, is it right and will it contribute to the common good. Selfish interests have delayed the righteous thing, the just thing, as Carlyle said, some day or two, some year or two, in Iowa history many times. When letters come pouring in upon you from every direction it is very wise to inquire into the source of them. The rule is that you will find them prompted and inspired from a source that would promote an individual rather than the common good. Men familiar with legislative history in Iowa have known of General Assemblies being stampeded in this way from enacting the most wholesome legislation only to find it become law later with the final approval of all the people and to find also that the letters received by them were sent by men who would have benefited most by the law relieving them of the incubus of the selfish interest but had been deceived into thinking that is was detrimental to their good.

You start, Senators and Representatives, into this session under the fire of criticism. Every legislature so starts. Before you have introduced a bill, even before you have come to the Capital City, the discrediting talk about the legislative session and what may or may not be done begins. It is one of the most unfortunate things of our American life that with an air of superciliousness and superior wisdom a large part of our citizenship assume to speak of State legislatures, and the Congress of the United States as well, with at least poorly disguised ridicule. Men who have never given any time at all to the consideration of public questions and who have seldom, or never, seen any bad effects of the completed work of a legislature will begin, and have already begun to discount your work. It has actually become a habit. It brings into contempt with young people especially the law-making department of the State—by far the most important, bearing a greater weight of responsibility, than any other department of government. Neither the Executive nor the Judicial department can be compared with it in its importance to the life, happiness and destiny of the commonwealth. And yet, I but speak the truth, when I say that to be known as a member of the legislature is to be regarded by many with a certain sort of condescension. To such an extent has this thing grown up among the people that I have known most excellent men to shrink from the unpleasant

publicity it would give them to become a candidate for a member of the legislature—a place capable of commanding the very best equipment and more versatility of talent than any other in the State. It is all a part of our want of respect for law. Indeed, it breeds the want of such respect. It brings about the failure to enforce the law. If the people and the newspapers assiduously but, perhaps, sometimes, thoughtlessly, by slighting reference and sometimes open condemnation bring about the impression that the legislature is more an instrument of evil than anything else, there will not be much reverence for the lawmaker's law. There are men who do this and then talk about good citizenship, forgetting that this is the very worst sort of citizenship. I am not talking about fair, dignified, honorable criticism, or corrective suggestions, but I refer, as you know, to the I-am-the-superior-curl-lip-contempt sort of suggestion and criticism. This ought not to move you but I am frank to say you start with this handicap—the handicap that makes a man hesitate and makes some men afraid. Be not afraid.

Another thing will be your experience, and it grows out of the habit of the public mind of which I have just spoken. When your work is done, the better it is done, if you do anything worthy of yourselves and the State, if you make a record for really wise, constructive legislation, especially if you change an old, worn out way of doing a thing—a way adapted to by-gone days and conditions, to wise up-to-date business methods, if you do something for the public welfare that prys some men loose from a few-dollar-per-year position or from some business graft, you may be assured that a storm of condemnation will fall upon you before you have been home thirty days. Of course if you do nothing, you will escape all this. The man who never does anything never arouses any antagonisms. The man who is never close enough to the battle line to hear the music of the bullets and shells never gets hit. And the men whom your legislation does the most for are often the men who will condemn you most severely. After you have given weeks, sometimes months of time, to the consideration of a measure and reached a wise and sound conclusion your constituents, who have not given the subject two hours of really careful study and thought, will pour out their vials of wrath on your heads. That is what is coming to you. It is not decent treatment. On the other hand it is a reflection on your honesty; it is a charge of your abandonment of the public welfare; it is a declaration of

a want of confidence. I want to suggest to the great Iowa constituency of this General Assembly that it can do no more unreasonable, unjust and unfair thing than to condemn its representatives before it has given the same careful study and consideration to the subject under as favorable circumstances for acquiring facts and knowledge of conditions and results to follow as they had. The decent, right, honest, patriotic thing to do is to assume, what you know to be a fact before these men left your communities, that they were honest, true men and that they would not have enacted the law if they had not thought it right and in the interest of the common good. When you have made this study under this assumption and given the law time to be tested, then condemn if you are not satisfied, but not before. You have no right to do so before. There has never been a great, constructive piece of legislation where the loss of political heads did not follow and in every case time has vindicated the value and wisdom of the law. And it is a fact that the very men who led the victims to the political slaughter have often been the men to whom the law has been of most value and the men who afterwards would have fought its repeal with all the energy they could command. And no such law, so far as I have discovered, has ever yet been repealed. No law touching a great subject ever comes from the legislature perfect. It would be foolish to suppose that could be so. Its imperfections on testing it, however, can be discovered and remedied by amendments.

The truth of what I have said here could be easily proved by many examples. I need only instance the drainage law enacted by the 30th General Assembly. It fell under the most violent condemnation and its repeal was demanded. It, however, added thousands of acres to Iowa farms and hundreds upon hundreds of thousands of dollars to value of farm products. But I need not go further back than to the last legislature. When before in the history of States did such a storm of condemnation fall upon men? There was the road law. Its repeal was demanded with the utmost insistency. In just this brief period a wonderful change has taken place in public sentiment in its favor. Who made the most noise and incited the insurrection? For the most part the men who had for years profited enormously in the sale of material for bridge and culvert construction. But now it has had the endorsement of the meeting of the Boards of Supervisors of the State. It has the distinction of being referred to as

the model road law by government experts in road building. Under it, and it has hardly yet had time to get under way, more good, permanent road work has been done in Iowa than in very many years put together before. Under it the people are getting value received for their money while before millions upon millions were wasted. Time will completely vindicate its wisdom and the men who enacted it and took the pitiless, cruel storm, the men who laid down their political lives for the good of the people.

There is the school superintendent law. Because of the nature of it, it has, perhaps, not yet reached its full vindication. The legislature thought that office and through it the schools of Iowa ought not to be made the football of politics. In the great public school interests they thought it ought not to be that anybody, without reference to qualifications, could be elected county superintendent of schools as had been done in some counties.

What else has the 35th General Assembly, the violently condemned, to its credit? Just to instance a few measures by the briefest statement:

- Against unfair discrimination in trade;
- Fraudulent advertising;
- Books of accounts photographed for depositions, used in evidence;
- Carrying concealed weapons;
- Board of Arbitration to settle disputes, prevent strikes;
- Instructions to jury submitted to counsel before read to jury;
- Weights and measures law for protection of people;
- Public recreation and play grounds for schools;
- Right to acquire up to five acres for school grounds;
- State aid to consolidated schools;
- Providing for Normal Courses in high schools;
- State colony for epileptics;
- Establishment of hog cholera serum plant;
- Reorganization of State Board of Health—now the most effective in the State's history;
- Strengthening law as to bureau of labor statistics as to inspections, accidents, etc.;
- Custodial department at Knoxville and payment of inmates for work;
- Employers Liability and Workmen's Compensation Act;
- Department of Insurance;
- Employment of prisoners on public highways;

Election of United States Senators by the people;
Shortening ballot by making clerk and reporter of Supreme Court and State Superintendent appointive;
Reorganization of State Superintendent's department;
Capitol extension bill.

The list might be much extended. The 35th was, perhaps, the most violently condemned legislature in the history of the State, yet I venture to say there is not more than one other that can for a moment stand in comparison with it. The future will thoroughly and completely vindicate it in spite of some mistakes it made. You men of the 36th are the successors to those of the 35th. You are good, honest, true, faithful, patriotic men, proud of Iowa, loving her, devoted to the common good, to human betterment, and your constituents know it. They ought not to assume the attitude I have described and I speak of it thus publicly because it is a public wrong and good citizenship, on reflection, will see that it is.

I have already spoken of the zeal that exists in the State for its upbuilding. If you will bear with me I should like to be specific with reference to several matters.

CO-OPERATION OF INDUSTRIES.

There is much consideration given in these days to the building up and development of particular interests in the State. It is well that it is so, but it has sometimes seemed to me that there is much loss of effort. Much good is done and advancement is made all of the time but more could be accomplished if there were a greater combination of efforts. To illustrate: There are held annual meetings of the Corn Belt Meat Producers' Association, the Corn Growers, County and District Fair Managers, the Poultry Men, the Dairy Men, the Bee-Keepers, the Swine, Cattle and Horse Breeders and perhaps other organizations, all having to do primarily with the farm, or with life on the farm and, fundamentally, with the development of the wealth and greatness of the State. These meetings are all held separately. In this way every man is taught to consider only his own individual interest and business. Each one of these only represents, however, one element entering into the increase of the State's wealth and the betterment of conditions. The exchange of ideas, the discussion of subjects pertaining exclusively to the particular industry is admittedly very helpful, but

such methods do not make for the bigness of the man in the best sense. His vision becomes too circumscribed. He fails to realize that the greatness of his business and the completest success of it must, after all, depend on the measure of success or volume and profit of every other one of these lines of effort. The greatest sum of prosperity and human well-being can only be attained when all are prosperous and general contentment prevails. Every man is dependent upon every other man. Every business is dependent upon every other business. These are but expressions of a general principle, but we cannot get away from it. We never can make a great State here, superior in its achievements and attracting marked attention on account of them, nor can we have great, big Iowa men until they come to see that the other fellow's business is their business, too. Each one of these lines of endeavor and others that might be named are capable of a tremendous contribution to the State's wealth, but to get it the men of Iowa ought to be behind every one of them. In other words, there ought to be combination of effort. There ought to be co-ordination of all of these interests. There ought to be team work. Here are the bee-keepers in a meeting alone. Nobody but themselves knowing much about it or taking any interest in it. Yet they can turn hundreds of thousands of dollars into the State's wealth. Yonder are the dairymen, likewise alone, and the swine breeders, cattle and horse breeders, the poultry men, the meat producers, the horticulturists—a few men comparatively at each place, as if all Iowa were not very vitally interested in all these things. There may be difference in degree of importance to the common welfare among these industries, but all are important—very important. As things have been going, in their one-sidedness instead of their wholeness of interest, some are led to think and speak of some of these interests as of slight consequence. Every man wants every other man to be greatly interested in his particular interest, but he forgets to reciprocate. The men engaged in the development of finer and better animals forget that there is such a thing, for instance, as fruit breeding, such a thing as making new plants and trees. The exhibits of the horticultural society show as fine apples as are produced anywhere, but they practically come from the southern sections of the State. What Iowa needs and must have in the coming years are apples, peaches, pears, plums and other fruits that will grow and thrive and bear in the different soils in all sections of the State—on the prairies of central and northern Iowa. I am told that it is practically impossible

to grow fruits for Iowa which were bred "in the moist air and timbered regions bordering the eastern seaboard or the great lakes." It is said "The Mississippi valley has a fiercer climate of heat and cold and great and sudden changes" and that there must be bred trees and plants adapted to each particular region—to Iowa. Mr. C. G. Patten of Charles City, has in a quiet way been devoting himself to this work. A leading horticulturist of Iowa for more than forty years says of him: "He is a genius in this way and has done more than any other man east of the Rocky Mountains. The work of Mr. Burbank of California does not count, as his productions are not suited to this climate and are mostly entire failures here. Mr. Patten has the most extensive laboratory for producing new and adapted varieties of fruits that exists between the Rocky Mountains and the Atlantic Ocean. He has spent his life and strength at this work for nearly forty years and is now well past eighty." It gives me the greatest pleasure to in this public way call attention to Mr. Patten's work. Modest, unassuming, quietly, intelligently, without reward or hope thereof, he is giving himself to the future. It is for Iowa that he wants to breed fruits adapted to her climate and her soil—adapted as if they were indigenous here. He has already done a great work. He says, "I am confident that the horticultural society of Iowa will have the honor of promoting the organization of a distinctly new, high quality pear and the most hardy type of cultivated pear tree ever known." This work ought to have encouragement and support. Other breeders should take notice and should lend their support, interest and encouragement. The other earnest, intelligent man's work is of vast moment also. This work, continued and supported as it ought to be, will mean millions upon millions of dollars to Iowa in the coming years. And it is toward the future, the *future*, that every right man should have his face set. The problems of the world will be solved when men look upon life as a service to humanity. It all lies away yonder. What is your contribution to be? To be specific, what is it to be to the Iowa rising yonder in the distance in splendid vision?

I have spoken of horticulture by way of illustrating the thought that I want to present here. I might have taken any other great industry. It is well, very well, these meetings of these different interests in the fall and winter of the year. But why would it not be a great thing if they would all make a week of it and after the separate meetings and special discussions, give, say two days of the

week, to a general, altogether meeting to form a better and closer acquaintance with each other and with what each is trying to do and the greatness and possibilities of the work and business of the separate organizations and thus co-ordinate these interests, organize them as a whole, do team work, create a general, helpful, sympathetic mutuality that will arouse an enthusiasm for all these things that are to bring satisfaction, comfort and wealth to all the people now and in greater measure in the future, thus, indeed, every man becoming a promoter of a "Greater Iowa."

I do not know that any legislation could be suggested to bring about a result which, it seems to me, is so desirable, but I submit these thoughts for consideration and call attention to Chapter 140 of the Acts of the 35th General Assembly providing for "County Corporations for Improvement of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Horticulture," with the inquiry, Why not a State wide incorporation for the promotion of the interests I have mentioned, thus bringing about organization, co-operation and concentration of effort? Explode a little powder, laid about, here and there, and its force is dissipated, lost and disappears in a puff of smoke. Get it together, confine it, get it behind something, then ignite it and the ball instantly flies away yonder, one mile, two, five miles with tremendous effectiveness. So may it not be to get together and amalgamate these great Iowa activities?

AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS.

Believing that it would result in great benefit to our agricultural interests and promotion of the general good I asked the last legislature to authorize me by resolution to appoint and commission as representatives of the State not more than three persons to visit foreign lands, especially Great Britain and Ireland, to study at first hand agricultural conditions and methods with reference to co-operation, land tenantry and the preservation of soil fertility and make a report of results, facts and conclusions. The request was granted and two of the most eminent and best qualified men of the State for the task, Hon. James Wilson and Hon. Henry Wallace, were appointed. They were remarkably well fitted for the mission because of many years study of agricultural conditions and needs and a genuine interest in and devotion to agricultural betterment. They visited the countries named, made a most careful study and most instructive report which will be placed on your desks for your careful consideration.

Subsequently, and some time after the adjournment of the legislature, I appointed another commission of especially qualified men, namely, Hon. John Cowrie, Hon. Eugene Secor and Hon. F. D. Steen, to investigate and report upon the needs of agriculture in Iowa. They, also, made a most helpful and suggestive report. I urge upon you a most conscientious study of what these men have to say in these reports. They both raise a question of very great importance which, sooner or later will force itself on the people—the preservation of our soil fertility. They show that we are exhausting, wasting, destroying it all the time on almost half the farms of the State. This is a matter of great public concern. There cannot be a great people without great soil production. The greatness, indeed the very life of the State, in fact of the Republic, is founded on the retention and increased fertility of the land. The land robber is a menace to the public good. The present should call a halt. Out of the future comes the cry of determined protest. The countries of the old world were forced to meet and solve the problem and they did it through the experience of centuries. It will be far less difficult of solution here if we begin at once and profit by their experience. The report on conditions in the countries visited says there is "an entire absence of worn-out land" and no complaint "of a want of soil fertility" or "land hunger" on the part of tenants. In substance, it is said, this is all due to the law relating to landlord and tenant. Nearly all the land is cultivated by tenants but there are no short term leases, the term being from fourteen to nineteen years in Scotland and the tenant paid for unexhausted fertility added to the land by him. Here forty per cent of the farms are reported occupied by tenants and most of the leases for only one year. No incentive to improvement upon the land or to increase soil fertility. Impoverish and leave for continued impoverishment by the next tenant. It is a hopeless condition for landlord, tenant and land. The public interest is in the land and legislation must give it consideration first and landlord and tenant next. It is the very first duty of Iowa to preserve her soil. Her sovereignty can find no higher expression. To save her own life she must command the preservation of the means by which she lives. She should forbid that her citizens impoverish the children of the future. There is no question in which society should have greater concern. It rises to a question above merely private rights and interest to one of the public welfare. I have always understood that that which affects the public welfare may be a subject

of legislative regulation. There cannot be a matter of greater public interest and therefore can be controlled for the common good. The Supreme Court of the United States very recently held that a large part of the country's wealth is subject to loss through fire and therefore that fire insurance rates may be fixed and regulated by law in the interest of the common good. By analogy why may we not reason—the soil is a large part of the wealth of the State and the terms of its leasing may be regulated by law in the interest of human welfare. Under conditions as they are shown to be the landlord is not a conservationist and the tenant cannot be. Men speculate in lands, rentals increase, the short term tenant exploits the soil, and, not to be blamed, he takes his flight to cheaper lands in other States or under another flag. He should have an interest in the soil he tills. There should be something of a reasonable permanency in his connection with it to inspire his hope. He should be a builder and not a destroyer and so should the landlord. This is a vital question now, it will be doubly so in the future. To solve it now, or to even begin the serious consideration of it, will be the saving of millions of dollars to the future of our State. In one of these reports it is said: "We need laws, both federal and State, that will compel consideration of the land in all leases, making it the chief factor of importance, to be followed later by the claims of the tenant and landlord." This is a problem most difficult of solution, but that should not deter grappling with it. It is easy to point out the conditions which should exist but how to bring them about is quite another thing. We may, at least, begin to think seriously about the problem. I think it must be that the remedy can gradually be worked out. I think I can see that the well-being of the farmer—the owner and tenant—and the land and, ultimately of course, society as a whole, must depend upon such laws as the committee suggests and it must depend also upon a correction of our system of distribution which returns to the producer perhaps not more than half or two-thirds of what the consumer pays and also upon a solution of the great problem of agricultural credit. I submit these reports and suggestions for the special and careful consideration of your committees on agriculture.

THE EXTENSION OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS.

The 35th General Assembly, after the most careful consideration and study of the immediate, pressing needs of the State and of her needs and greatness in the coming years, authorized and directed

the purchase of certain, specific grounds surrounding the Capitol building and directed the levy of a tax from year to year to pay for the same. In this bill was incorporated a plan for the future development of the grounds. This plan, which became a part of the law, was devised by one of the most competent and skilled landscape architects in the world and without expense to the State. The purpose in this was to prevent the haphazard location of buildings, memorials, monuments, walks, drives, etc., in the future thus mar- rying and spoiling the opportunity given by nature to Iowa to have, probably, the most inviting and beautiful Capitol grounds in all the world. The opportunity, already too long neglected, to secure the grounds at a price the future would doubtless forbid and a de- sire to render a great public service, not only to the present but to the men and women of all the oncoming years in this great com- monwealth, prompted your immediate predecessors by an over- whelming majority to pass what has since come to be known as the Capitol Extension Bill. Not only was this bill so passed but after- ward when attacked by all the legal learning that could be brought to bear upon it, it was held by an undivided court to be invulner- able to any legal criticism that could be lodged against it. Subse- quently the dominant political party of the State, in a contest in which it was a leading issue, refused with very strong emphasis to express its dissatisfaction with what had been done. Again the question, clear cut, undisguised, fully understood in its length and breadth and height and depth was submitted to all of the people of the State for their approval or disapproval. Their pronounced approval is so recent as to be fresh in the minds of all.

In accordance with the provisions of this law the Executive Council proceeded to purchase said real estate and has bought one hundred and seventy-five different descriptions for the aggregate price of \$980,902.00. But little more in comparison with the whole remains to be acquired. The whole, with the exception of the large stone church and the lot directly across the street west of it ex- actly upon the northwest corner of the tract is essential to the plan that was in the mind of the 35th General Assembly and the sketch of the completed grounds as outlined by the landscape architect which became a part of the law. It was the policy of the Council, so far as it reasonably could, to buy from the Capitol outward and what remains are lots in a few of the outlying blocks. In all of these blocks the State has bought a portion. So far, therefore, as the purchase is concerned it is practically completed. The best

estimate I can now give you as to the cost of the whole as thus out- lined will be \$1,140,000.00. The Council is now taking options for and contracting for the lots that remain. Competent, expert opin- ion from all sources is agreed that as a whole the property has been bought at very fair and reasonable values.

The law referred to ordered the Executive Council to sell Governor's Square either as a whole or after platting the same into blocks and lots. As the law also directed the sale of the buildings on the extended grounds it was the judgment of the Council that it would be much more profitable to the State to plat the square and move some of the better houses on the lots and sell the lots as thus improved. Thirty houses will be moved to the square. A few have already been moved. Already there have been moved from the purchased grounds fifty houses and three old brick structures wrecked. It is confidently believed by the Council that this method of dealing with the problem will bring to the State a net profit of \$40,000 to \$50,000 over and above what would have been realized by selling without thus improving the lots. The houses sold were of the poorer class. There have been realized from the sale of property from the grounds and from rentals \$28,405.63.

These things I have outlined because I think that the people are entitled to know the exact situation. I believe and always have believed, as the people of the State know, that they are greatly to be congratulated upon this great movement. From all over the country, from New York to San Francisco, have come letters from eminent men and women and from persons not well known, expressing their great appreciation of what Iowa has done in this particular. Already it has brought dis- tinction to the State in that her legislators have provided for the great future while they could at a very reasonable expendi- ture. Greater distinction will be hers and universal applause and congratulations will constantly greet her from all parts of the Union when the great Capitol and the buildings, monuments and memorials emerging from the coming years will have proper placement and adequate setting and when Capitol Hill, command- ing a most superb and beautiful view of a great city, the val- leys of the rivers and the country stretching far beyond, shall have been improved and completed in harmony with the design of the architect and the splendid vision which has for years in- spired thousands upon thousands of the men and women of Iowa

and which found expression in the Act of the 35th General Assembly and when this hill shall bear upon its front and crest in grateful shade in summer time and in strength and majesty in the winter the trees indigenous to Iowa soil and climate as well as trees adapted thereto transplanted from all lands and when lawn and flowers and shrubbery shall everywhere invite, all eloquently proclaiming the bigness of the life of the people, their culture, their ideals, their appreciation of the really great value in human existence and of an investment that can never by any possibility involve a loss, then, and after we have long been forgotten, will Iowa continually enjoy great distinction because of her Capitol grounds.

And now in closing I desire to say that I am very hopeful that a fine record may be made by the 36th General Assembly. I am anxious to do whatever I can by cooperating with you in a proper way to assist in promoting such a result. When the work is done I trust it will be distinguished for its important, constructive character and for the care, thoughtfulness and accuracy with which it was done. There is no greater, no more responsible work than that of the lawmaker. A State's place in the world, its degree of enlightenment, must ever, in a very large measure, be determined by its laws. The future of Iowa, in the large sense, in its public policy, with reference to the things that make for her growth and development will and must find expression in her legislation. Whatever Iowa may have and be in the future that will be of benefit to mankind must depend upon us who today call the State ours. Our obligation is not simply to today. It is a thousand times more to the years that are to come—to the Iowa that is to be—to the Iowa that we desire her to be. We ought to take a far-ahead look. The foundations ought to be enduring. What are these roads, these schools, these questions of social well-being, these questions of public health, these questions that go to the enlargement of life in the best and deepest sense—what are they to the future, should have consideration. We are not worth our time and space here unless we are looking constantly forward to a coming of a better day. Right good questions to ask oneself are, Is this the little or large view I am taking? Am I consulting my own, selfish interests or the welfare of all? What if everybody were just like me? What would my community, my State be if everybody were to adopt my view—which way would they be pulling, forward or backward?

Down in the rotunda in letters of gold is inscribed the sentiment: "Iowa—our eyes have been permitted to see only the beginning of her glory". It is true, and it doth not yet appear what she shall be. What a splendid vision rises. How much depends on us. Halt her not in any of the great steps forward she has taken. With unstinted devotion to her and her greatness may you do your work.